

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL  
DIVERSITY et al.,

Plaintiff (s),

v.

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES  
SERVICE et al.,

Defendant (s).

CASE NO.  
2:19-cv-01299-MLP

**ORDER REGARDING INITIAL  
DISCLOSURES, JOINT STATUS  
REPORT, AND  
EARLY SETTLEMENT**

**I. INITIAL SCHEDULING DATES**

The Court sets the following dates for initial disclosure and submission of the  
Joint Status Report and Discovery Plan:

Deadline for Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f) Conference: 12/3/2019

Initial Disclosures Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1): 12/17/2019

Combined Joint Status Report and Discovery  
Plan as Required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f)  
and Local Civil Rule 26(f): 12/24/2019

The deadlines above may be extended only by the Court. Any request for an  
extension should be made by email to Courtroom Deputy, Tim Farrell at  
[tim\\_farrell@wawd.uscourts.gov](mailto:tim_farrell@wawd.uscourts.gov). The parties are directed to meet and confer before  
contacting the Court to request an extension.

If this case involves claims which are exempt from the requirements of Fed. R.  
Civ. P.26(a) and 26(f), please notify Courtroom Deputy, Tim Farrell, by email.

## II. JOINT STATUS REPORT & DISCOVERY PLAN

All counsel and any pro se parties are directed to confer and provide the Court with a combined Joint Status Report and Discovery Plan (the "Report") by December 24, 2019. This conference shall be by direct and personal communication, preferably a face-to-face meeting, but may be by a telephonic conference. The Report will be used to determine if a Fed. R. Civ. P. 16 conference would be helpful and to set a schedule for the prompt completion of the case.

The Report must contain the following information by corresponding paragraph numbers:

1. A statement of the nature and complexity of the case.
2. A proposed deadline for the joining of additional parties.
3. A discovery plan that states, by corresponding paragraph letters (A, B, etc.), the parties' views and proposals on all items set forth in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f)(3), which includes the following topics:

- (A) initial disclosures;
- (B) subjects, timing, and potential phasing of discovery;
- (C) electronically stored information;
- (D) privilege issues;
- (E) proposed limitations on discovery; and
- (F) the need for any discovery related orders.

4. The parties' views, proposals, and agreements, by corresponding paragraph letters (A, B, etc.), on all items set forth in LCR 26(f)(1), which includes the following topics:

- (A) prompt case resolution;
- (B) alternative dispute resolution;
- (C) related cases;

(D) discovery management;

(E) anticipated discovery sought;

(F) phasing motions;

(G) preservation of discoverable information;

(H) privilege issues;

(I) Model Protocol for Discovery of ESI, and;

(J) alternatives to Model Protocol.

5. The date by which discovery can be completed.

6. Whether the case should be bifurcated by trying the liability issues before the damages issues, or bifurcated in any other way.

7. Whether the pretrial statements and pretrial order called for by LCR 16(e), (h), (i), and (k), and 16.1 should be dispensed with in whole or in part for the sake of economy.

8. Whether the parties intend to utilize the Individualized Trial Program set forth in LCR 39.2 or any ADR options set forth in LCR 39.1.

9. Any other suggestions for shortening or simplifying the case.

10. The date the case will be ready for trial. The Court expects that most civil cases will be ready for trial within a year after filing the Joint Status Report and Discovery Plan.

11. Whether the trial will be jury or non-jury.

12. The number of trial days required.

13. The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of all trial counsel.

14. The dates on which the trial counsel may have complications to be considered in setting a trial date.

15. If, on the due date of the Report, all defendant(s) or respondents(s) have not been served, counsel for the plaintiff shall advise the Court when service will be

1 effected, why it was not made earlier, and shall provide a proposed schedule for the  
2 required Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f) conference and Fed. R. Civ.P. 26(a) initial disclosures.

3 16. Whether any party wishes a pretrial Fed. R. Civ. P. 16 conference with  
4 the judge prior to the entry of any order pursuant to Rule 16 or setting of a schedule for  
5 this case. If yes, indicate whether a party wishes an in-person or telephonic conference.

6 17. List the date(s) that each and every nongovernmental corporate party filed  
7 its disclosure statement pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 7.1 and LCR 7.1.

8 If the parties are unable to agree on any part of the Report, they may answer in  
9 separate paragraphs. No separate reports are to be filed. If the parties wish to have a  
10 status conference with the Court at any time during the pendency of this action, they  
11 should notify Courtroom Deputy, Tim Farrell, by email.

### 12 **III. PLAINTIFF'S RESPONSIBILITY**

13 Plaintiff's counsel (or plaintiff, if pro se), will be responsible for starting the  
14 communications needed to comply with this Order.

### 15 **IV. JUDGE SPECIFIC PROCEDURAL INFORMATION**

16 All counsel and unrepresented parties should review Judge Peterson's web page  
17 for procedural information applicable to cases before Judge Peterson. The judge's web  
18 pages, in addition to the Local Rules, Electronic Filing Procedures for Civil and  
19 Criminal Cases, court forms, instruction sheets, and General Orders, can be found on  
20 the Court's website at [www.wawd.uscourts.gov](http://www.wawd.uscourts.gov).

### 21 **V. EARLY SETTLEMENT CONSIDERATION AND NOTIFICATION**

22 If settlement is achieved, counsel shall immediately notify Courtroom Deputy,  
23 Tim Farrell.

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1 The parties are responsible for complying with the terms of this Order.

2 DATED: The 12th of November 2019

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6 MICHELLE L. PETERSON  
United States Magistrate Judge  
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